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City of Rio Dell

Conservation Element

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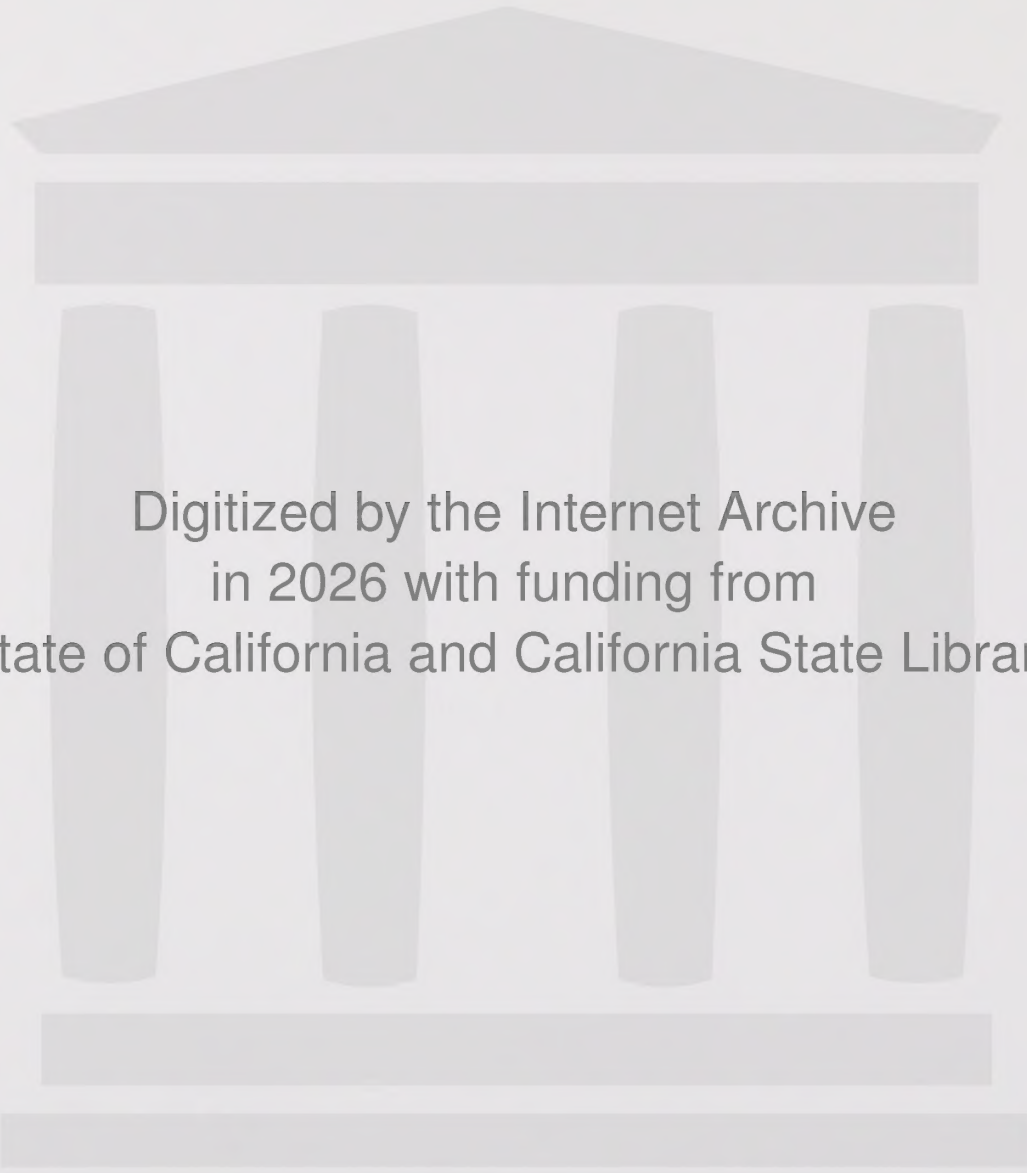
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Rio Dell Area General Plan

November 2001

Passed by the Rio Dell Planning Commission 10/24/2001 - PC Res. 01-03

Adopted by the Rio Dell City Council 11/6/2001 by Resolution Number 794



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CONSERVATION ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN
CITY OF RIO DELL, HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
NOVEMBER 2001

INTRODUCTION

The Legislature of the State of California enacted Government Code Section 65302 to assure that cities and counties would implement a "Conservation Element" of its General Plan for the conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources including water and its hydraulic force, forests, soils, rivers, other waters, harbors, fisheries, wildlife, minerals, and other natural resources.

The City of Rio Dell established its first Conservation Element of its General Plan in December 1972. as a combined Conservation /Open Space Element. It is now recognized that even though there are overlapping facets shared by the two Elements, individual Conservation and Open Space Elements should now be issued.

The American public is awakening to the fact that the United States of America leads the world in resource consumption, much from its own national resources. The public is also aware that national natural resources are limited and must be sustained by conservation and enhancement.

PREAMBLE

Conservation and management of natural resources is a civic responsibility, which is best met by resource enhancement rather than by resource depletion. Purposes, goals, objectives and policies for conserving, enhancing and managing the city's natural resources are critical ingredients of this Conservation Element of the City's General Plan.

The City of Rio Dell and its environs are unique in the quality of its natural resources of forests, soil, wildlife, moderate climate, the Eel River, the nearby Scotia Bluffs.

PURPOSE, GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this Element is to explore the major long-range implications of conservation planning, and to establish principles, goals and objectives as guidelines in administration of both public and private programs in the approval process of projects that have a potential impact on natural resources within the City of Rio Dell.

The City of Rio Dell's ultimate goal is the improvement and enhancement of the area's unique urban environment and natural resources.

The establishment of goals and objectives is necessary to provide guidelines for preparing policy and plans which realistically reflect the needs of the Rio Dell community. The following specific goals and objectives are reflected in this Conservation Element:

- Prevention of the pollution of air, land, streams, rivers and all watersheds are top priority. Polluters will be aggressively dealt with and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.
- Evaluation of water supply and demand to plan for future water needs of the community and or water conservation measures.
- Ensuring that all public and private facilities are designed to the highest professional standards possible.
- Ensuring that the community is provided with safe, clean, high quality potable water in adequate quantity to meet existing and future domestic water needs.
- Establishing and implementation of water conservation and or reduction measures.
- Coordination with county, regional, district, state and federal agencies in water supply planning.
- Establishment and maintenance of public access routes to creeks and rivers.
- Preserving areas of unique historic-scenic interest along with wildlife habitation.
- Careful choice of conservation action programs shall be determined by the specifics of the problem requiring action, following detailed scientific and thorough analysis.
- Prevention and control of the pollution of streams and rivers.
- Regulation of the use of land in stream channels and other areas required for the accomplishment of this plan.
- Reclamation of land and waters.
- Prevention, control, and correction of the erosion of soils, beaches and shores.
- Managing the location, quantity and quality of rock, sand and gravel resources.
- Regulating Flood Control and regulating Flood Plains.

DEFINITIONS

“Conservation” controlled use or systematic protection of rivers, forests and other natural resources in order to preserve and enhance through prudent management.

“Consumption” is the act or process of being consumed, consumption of natural resources through using material.

“Enhancement” is to improve, raise to a higher degree, to enhance.

“Resource” is a source of supply that can be drawn upon.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- The City of Rio Dell is supplied water from a temporary/emergency water intake and treatment system that pulls water from the Eel River.
- Rio Dell has a Water Rights license to divert 0.62 Cubic Feet per Second (CFS) water from the Eel River.
- Rio Dell has a temporary Water Rights permit to draw 2.64 CFS from the Eel River, which is in use today.
- Rio Dell needs a permanent Water Rights permit for 2.64 CFS to keep up with current water demands and to meet future water demand projections of the next twenty years.
- The total number of water customers currently served by the city is 1,117.
- Of these connections: 1, 086 are residential, 26 are commercial, 1 is industrial and 4 are agricultural.
- Water use projections through the year 2021 plan for a total population of 4,107.
- A Water Shortage Conservation Plan has been adopted by the Rio Dell City Council and implemented by staff. Outreach programs are in place urging water customers to conserve water.

REGULATION AND POLICIES

Rio Dell's zoning ordinance, according to present state law, must conform to the Conservation Element, and implementation of this aspect of the state law will have high priority.

The Rio Dell Planning Commission shall review requirements and implications of State of California Administrative Code as they relate to this and other General Plan Elements...

The Rio Dell Planning Commission shall consider means of increased city natural resource conservation through preservation, enhancement and prevention of resource depletion.

The City of Rio Dell shall provide resource conservation material to the Rio Dell School District. The material will emphasize the use of resource enhancement and addresses the pitfalls of natural resource exhaustion.

SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS

The City of Rio Dell has been endowed with a unique heritage of natural resources. These city resources have not been significantly diminished. Both the State of California and the Federal government are currently actively involved in major programs emphasizing enhancement of natural resources and regulation of resource

consumption. With this new Conservation Element defining city resource conservation programs this vital local protection of our municipal heritage will be preserved and expanded.

THE CITY ACTION PLAN

1. To implement and maintain citywide understanding of what natural resources are and how resources should be enhanced rather merely consumed.
2. To take appropriate remedial action if excessive levels of natural resource consumption develop within the City of Rio Dell.
3. To stress early involvement of city staff, the Planning commission and the City Council in the planning for future development and proposed construction that could excessively consume City of Rio Dell natural resources.
4. To consistently implement the use of Attachment 2 “City of Rio Dell General Plan Element Compliance Checklist” including the “Conservation Element Compliance” item in every city planning, developmental, Planning Commission, City Council and Building Permit action.

EPILOGUE

At this time we do not know in quantifiable terms to what extent a conservation program can actually promote land use goals and objectives. However, it is believed that if this conservation plan is implemented, it will be of considerable value to our citizens, and to the present and future charm, beauty and prosperity of the community.

The City of Rio Dell reaffirms its continuing dedication to implement the Conservation Element of its General Plan.

Planning and Zoning Local Planning Division 1 paragraph 65302

“ paragraph 65302(d) A conservation element for the conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources including water and its hydraulic force, forests, soils, rivers and other waters, harbors, fisheries, wildlife, minerals, and other natural resources. That portion of the conservation element including waters shall be developed in coordination with any countrywide water agency and with all district and city agencies which have developed, served, controlled or conserved water for any purpose for the county or city for which the plan is prepared. Coordination shall include the discussion and evaluation of any water supply and demand information described in Section 65352.5, if that information has been submitted by the water agency to the city or county. The conservation element may also cover:

- (1) The reclamation of land and waters.
- (2) Prevention and control of the pollution of streams and other waters.
- (3) Regulation of the use of land in stream channels and other areas required for the accomplishment of the conservation plan.
- (4) Prevention, control and correction of the erosion of soils, beaches and shores.
- (5) Protection of watersheds.
- (6) The location, quantity and quality of the rock, sand and gravel resources.
- (7) Flood control. ”

**City of Rio Dell
General Plan Element Compliance Checklist**

It is the policy of the City of Rio Dell to ensure that the Goals and Objectives of the General Plan are being met, to the greatest extent possible. Any person (staff or consultant) preparing a report to the City Planning Commission or City Council regarding a development or redevelopment project shall use this checklist as a guide to reviewing compliance with the various element of the General Plan. Please mark the yes or no box. If the project does not comply with the goals of a particular element explain why. Sign your name below.

Date: _____

Project Name: _____

Land Use Element: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Housing Element: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Open Space Element: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Circulation Element: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Conservation Element: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Public Safety Element: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Noise Element: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Scenic Highway Element: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Prepared By: _____

RESOLUTION NO. PC 01-03

RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY
OF RIO DELL RECOMMENDING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL
CONSIDER ADOPTION OF THE UPDATED CONSERVATION
ELEMENT DATED OCTOBER 2001

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission for the City of Rio Dell has initiated updating the Conservation Element of the City's General Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission did, after giving notice as prescribed by Government Code Section 65350 et seq., hold a public hearing to consider the updated Conservation Element of the City's General Plan, at which all persons desiring to be heard were heard; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that this project is ministerial and exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and

WHEREAS, the Conservation Element as recommended is in conformance with the requirements of Sections 65302 of the Government Code relating to local conservation plans;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Planning Commission of the City of Rio Dell is hereby approving and recommending that the draft Conservation Element dated October 2001 be considered and adopted by the City Council of the City of Rio Dell.

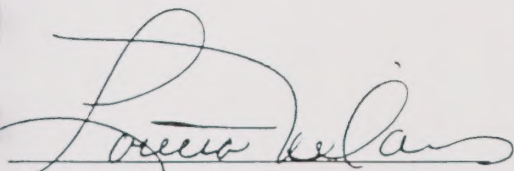
I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of the Resolution as adopted by the Planning Commission at its regular meeting of October 24, 2001, that said Resolution was adopted by the following votes:

AYES: Chairman O'Donald, Commissioner Withrow,
Thompson and Rakestraw

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Commissioner Plum



Loretta Nickolaus
Secretary to the
Planning Commission

RESOLUTION NO. 794

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIO DELL
ADOPTING A 'CONSERVATION' ELEMENT OF THE CITY'S GENERAL PLAN,
RESCINDING AND SUPERSEDING THE CONSERVATION ELEMENT
DATED DECEMBER 1972

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission for the City of Rio Dell has initiated updating the Conservation Element of the City's General Plan in conformance with Government Code Section 65302; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has held a public hearing on the updated element and has made recommendation to the City Council of approval; and

WHEREAS, the City Council did, after giving notice as prescribed by Government Code Section 65350 et seq., hold a public hearing to consider the updated Conservation Element of the City's General Plan, at which all persons desiring to be heard were heard; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that this project is ministerial and exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Rio Dell is hereby adopting its Conservation Element dated November 2001.

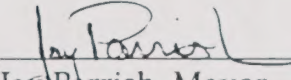
Passed and Adopted by the City Council of the City of Rio Dell on this 6th day of November 2001, by the following vote:

Ayes: Mayor Parrish, Councilmembers Plum and Leonard

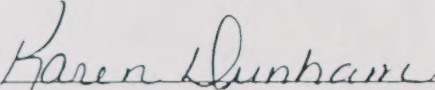
Noes: None

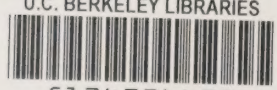
Abstain: None

Absent: Councilmembers Woodall and Ghilarducci


Jay Parrish, Mayor

Attest:


Karen Dunham, City Clerk



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RESOLUTION NO. 22

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BERKELEY
ADOPTING A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE CITY'S COUNCIL PLAN
RESISTANCE AND REFORMING THE CONSTITUTION ELEMENT
CITY OF CALIFORNIA 1971

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has filed a report of the City's
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the Commission has filed a report of the City's
the Commission has filed a report of the City's

WHEREAS, the City Council has adopted a resolution to
the City Council has adopted a resolution to
the City Council has adopted a resolution to

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the project is necessary and
the City Council has adopted a resolution to
the City Council has adopted a resolution to

NOW, THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF BERKELEY DO hereby
the City Council has adopted a resolution to
the City Council has adopted a resolution to

Resolved and adopted by the City Council of the City of Berkeley
the City Council has adopted a resolution to
the City Council has adopted a resolution to

Attest: Mayor
Attest: Clerk
Attest: Treasurer



